THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS'

MILLENNIAL STAR.

[ESTABLISHED 1840.]

"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men."—LUKE 2: 14.

No. 52 Vol. LXIX. Wednesday, December 25, 1907. Price One Penny.

OPENING ADDRESS BY PRESIDENT JOSEPH F. SMITH

AT THE GENERAL CONFERENCE IN SALT LAKE CITY, OCTOBER 4TH, 1907.

I FEEL very thankful to see so many of the Latter-day Saints assembled as are here this morning at the opening session of our Seventy-eighth Semi-Annual Conference. I desire to express the feelings of welcome we have to all of you who have come together for the purpose of participating in the business that may be transacted at this conference, and for the purpose of listening to such instructions as may be given to us through the servants of the Lord. It is a source of great satisfaction to me to witness the interest that is manifested in this conference by our people. We welcome you here this morning, and invoke upon you the blessing of the Lord; that His Holy Spirit may rest upon all who are assembled here for the purpose of worshiping the Lord in spirit and in truth, and who have come with a desire and purpose in their hearts to fulfil their duty to the Church and to the Lord, who has made it, by His word, necessary for us to assemble together, from time to time, to talk over and to consider His work, and the business that pertains to the upbuilding of Zion and the spread of the gospel to the nations of the world.

I feel thankful that the Presidency are in the enjoyment of usual health and strength, and that we are united in our labors. I am also very thankful to say to you that the Apostles are also united, not only among themselves, but with the Presidency; and

our interest in the work of the Lord is increasing, I believe, day by day. I may say, with all truth, that the First Council of Seventies are united with us and also united with each other; and so far as I know (and I think that we have very good opportunity to judge), there is a spirit of union and love existing throughout all the Church, pervading all the people of God. And this is undoubtedly a source of pleasure and strength, a source of joy and satisfaction to every soul who has an interest in the work of the Lord.

Our duties in the Church should be, I think, paramount to every other interest in the world. It is true that we are under the necessity of looking after our worldly interests. It is, of course, necessary for us to labor with our hands and our minds in our various occupations for obtaining the necessaries of life. It is essential that the Latter-day Saints should be industrious and persevering in all the labors that devolve upon them, for it is written that "the inhabitants of Zion shall remember their labors, inasmuch as they are appointed to labor, in all faithfulness; for the idler shall be had in remembrance before the Lord." Again it is written: "Let every man be diligent in all things, and the idler shall not have place in the Church except he repents and mends his ways." Again: "Thou shalt not be idle; for he that is idle shall not eat the bread nor wear the garments of the laborer." But in all our labors in life, in all the cares that beset us, and the temporal responsibilies that rest upon us, we should put uppermost in our thoughts and highest in our appreciation and love the cause of Zion, which is indeed the cause of truth and righteousness. It is the plan of life that the Almighty has restored to man in the latter days for the salvation of the souls of men, not only in the world to come, but in our present life, for the Lord has instituted His work that His people may enjoy the blessings of this life to the utmost; that they should be saved in this present life as well as in the life to come, that they should lay the foundation here for immunity from sin and all its effects and consequences, that they may obtain an inheritance in the kingdom of God beyond this vale of tears. The gospel of Jesus Christ is the power of God unto salvation, and it is absolutely necessary for every man and woman in the Church of Christ to work righteousness, to observe the laws of God and keep the commandments that He has given, in order that they may avail themselves of the power of God unto salvation in this life.

I do not believe in the idea that we hear sometimes advanced in the world: that it matters but little what men do in this time, if they will but confess Christ at the end of their journey in life, that that is all-sufficient, and that by so doing they will receive their passport into heaven. I denounce this doctrine. It is unscriptural, it is unreasonable, it is untrue, and it will not avail any man, no matter by whom this idea may be advocated; it will prove an utter failure unto men. As reasonable

beings, as men and women of intelligence, we cannot help but admire and honor the doctrine of Jesus Christ, which is the doctrine of God, and which requires of every man and woman righteousness in their lives, purity in their thoughts, uprightness in their daily walk and conversation, devotion to the Lord, love of truth, love of their fellow-man, and above all things in the world, the love of God. These were the precepts that were inculcated by the Son of God when He walked among His brethren in the meridian of time. He taught these precepts; He exemplified them in His life, and advocated continually the doing of the will of Him that sent Him.

He that sent His only-begotten Son into the world to accomplish the mission which He did, also sent every soul within the sound of my voice, and indeed every man and woman in the world to accomplish a mission, and that mission cannot be accomplished by neglect, nor by indifference, nor can it be accomplished in ignorance. We must learn our duty; learn the requirements that the Lord has made at our hands, and understand the responsibilities that He has placed upon us. We should learn the obligation that we are under to God, and to each other, and that we are under also to the cause of Zion, that has been restored to the earth in the latter days. These things are essential; and we cannot prosper in spiritual things, we cannot grow in knowledge and understanding, our minds cannot expand in the knowledge of God, nor in wisdom, nor in the gifts of the Holy Spirit, without we devote our thoughts and our efforts toward our own betterment, toward the increase of our own wisdom and knowledge in the things of God.

We labor day by day for the bread that perishes and we devote but a few hours, comparatively, in seeking to obtain the bread of life. Our thoughts, in great measure, are placed upon worldly things, the things that perish, and therefore we are prone to neglect the higher duties that devolve upon us as the children of our Father, and to forget, in some measure, the greater obligations that rest upon us. It is therefore proper, and indeed it becomes the duty of those who are placed upon the towers as watchmen in Zion, to exhort the people to diligence, to prayerfulness, to humility, to a love of the truth that has been revealed to them, and to earnest devotion to the work of the Lord, which is intended for their individual salvation, and, so far as they have influence upon others, the salvation of those whom they may have power to influence to move in the right direction; not that I can save any man, nor that any one man can save any other man or fit him for exaltation in the kingdom of God. This is not given to me to do for others, nor is it given to any man to be a savior in this sense, or in this way, to his fellow-man; but man can set an example; man can urge the precepts of the gospel. Men can proclaim the truth to others, and can point out the way to them in which to walk, and if they will hearken to their counsel, listen to their admonitions and be led by

them, they themselves will seek the path of life and they will walk in it and obtain their exaltation for themselves. And thus the work required of us by the Lord is an individual work; it devolves upon each individual alike. No man can be saved in the kingdom of God in sin. No man will ever be forgiven of his sins by the just Judge except he repents of his sins. No man will ever be freed from the power of death unless he is born again, as the Lord Almighty has decreed, and declared to the world by the mouth of His Son in the meridian of time, and as He has declared it again in this dispensation through the Prophet Joseph Smith. Men can only be saved and exalted in the kingdom of God in righteousness; therefore we must repent of our sins, and walk in the light as Christ is in the light, that His blood may cleanse us from all sins, and that we may have fellowship with God and receive of His glory and exaltation.

Now, it is not my purpose to occupy very much time this morning, but I desire, the Lord giving me His Spirit, to declare my faith in the divine mission of the Son of God, who spoke as no man ever spoke; who announced principles and doctrine that no man ever enunciated, and who proclaimed in the clearest possible terms the plan of life and salvation; and gave His own life and name to the world, as the only means and name under heaven by which man can be saved and exalted in the kingdom of God.

I declare to you in all candor, and in all earnestness of soul, that I believe with all my heart in the divine mission of Joseph Smith the Prophet, that I am convinced in every fibre of my being that God raised him up to restore to the earth the gospel of Christ, which is indeed the power of God unto salvation. I testify to you that Joseph Smith was instrumental in the hand of the Lord in restoring God's truth to the world, and also the holy priesthood, which is His authority delegated unto man. I know this is true, and I testify of it to you. To me it is all-in-all; it is my life, it is my light; it is my hope and my joy; it gives me the only assurance that I have for exaltation, for my resurrection from death, with those whom I have loved and cherished in this life, and with those with whom my lot has been cast in this world—honorable men, pure, humble men, who were obedient unto God and His commands, who were not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, nor of their convictions or knowledge of the truth of the gospel; men who were made of the stuff of which martyrs are made, and who were willing at any moment to lay down their lives for Christ's sake, and for the gospel, if need be, which they had received with the testimony of the Holy Spirit in their hearts. I want to be reunited with these men when I shall have finished my course here. When my mission is done here I hope to go beyond into the spirit world where they dwell, and be re-united with them. It is this gospel of the Son of God that gives me the hope that I have of this consummation, and of the realization of my desire in this

direction. I have staked *all* on this gospel, and I have not done it in vain, I know in whom I trust. I know that my Redeemer lives, and that He shall stand upon the earth in the latter day, and, as Job has expressed it, "Though worms shall destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God."

It is these things that I desire to impress upon the minds of the Latter-day Saints. You have received the truth. No man can prove to the contrary. No man under the heavens *knows* to the contrary. But you do know that you have received the truth, for God has given to you His Spirit, the Holy Ghost, by whom the things of the Father are revealed unto the understanding of the children of light, and they know in whom they trust. You have received the Gospel of Christ. Live it. Be faithful to it. Honor the covenants that you have made with the Lord in the waters of baptism. Honor every obligation that you owe to God and to your fellow-man. Live so that you can be indeed saviors upon Mount Zion in the sense that your lives will be above reproach, in the sense that no man can justly point to you as transgressors of the law of God; though they may malign you, though they may say all manner of evil against you falsely. Live so that they cannot justly and truly point out in you corruption, wickedness, or misconduct. Let your light so shine that honest men will see your good works and will be led to glorify your Father who is in heaven. Keep away from the haunts of sin. While you may entertain in your hearts a feeling of love, of charity, a merciful feeling toward sinners, those that transgress the laws of God, you do not have to take them into your bosoms, nor condescend to their conduct and habits.

I feel in my heart to forgive all men in the broad sense that God requires of me to forgive all men, and I desire to love my neighbor as myself; and to this extent I bear no malice toward any of the children of my Father. But there are enemies to the work of the Lord, as there were enemies to the Son of God. There are those who speak only evil of the Latter-day Saints There are those—and they abound largely in our midst—who will shut their eyes to every virtue and to every good thing connected with this latter-day work, and will pour out floods of falsehood and misrepresentation against the people of God. I forgive them for this. I leave them in the hands of the just Judge. Let Him deal with them as seemeth Him good, but they are not and cannot become my bosom companions. I cannot condescend to that. While I would not harm a hair of their head, while I would not throw a straw in their path, to hinder them from turning from the error of their way to the light of truth, I would as soon think of taking a centipede or a scorpion or any poisonous reptile and putting it into my bosom as I would think of becoming a companion or an associate of such a man.

These are my sentiments, and I believe that they are correct. If

you can throw yourself in the way of the sinner to stop him in his downward course, and become an instrument in the hand of the Lord of turning him from the way of vice, iniquity, or crime, into the way of righteousness and uprightness, you are justified and that is demanded of you. You should do this. If you can save a sinner from his wickedness, turn the wicked from the course of death that he is pursuing, to the way of life and salvation, you will save a soul from death, and you will have been an instrument in the hand of the Lord of turning the sinner unto righteousness, for which your will receive your reward. Some of our good Latter-day Saints have become so exceedingly good (?) that they cannot tell the difference between a saint of God, an honest man, and a son of Beelzebub, who has yielded himself absolutely to sin and wickedness. And they call that liberality, broadness of mind, exceeding love. I do not want to become so blinded with love for my enemies that I cannot discern between light and darkness, between truth and error, between good and evil; but I hope to live so that I shall have sufficient light in me to discern between error and truth, and to cast my lot on the side of truth and not on the side of error and darkness. The Lord bless the Latter-day Saints. If I am too narrow with reference to these matters I hope that the wisdom of my brethren and the Spirit of Light from the Lord may broaden my soul.

We have a few people amongst us who are so wrapped up in and so devoted to some of their kindred who have been guilty of every species of abomination and wickedness in the world that the moment they are dead they will come and ask for permission to go into the house of God to perform the ordinances of the gospel for their redemption. I do not blame them for their affection for their dead, nor do I blame them for the desire in their heart to do something for their salvation, but I do not admire their wisdom, nor can I agree with their conception of right and justice. You cannot take a murderer, a suicide, an adulterer, a liar, or one who was or is thoroughly abominable in his life here, and simply by the performance of an ordinance of the gospel cleanse him from sin and usher him into the presence of God. God has not instituted a plan of that kind, and it cannot be done. He has said you shall repent of your sins. The wicked will have to repent of their wickedness. Those who die without the knowledge of the gospel will have to come to the knowledge of it, and those who sin against light will have to pay the uttermost farthing for their transgression and their departure from the gospel before they can ever get back to it. Do not forget that. Do not forget it, you elders in Israel, nor you mothers in Israel, either, and when you seek to save either the living or the dead, bear it in mind that you can only do it on the principle of their repentance, and acceptation of the plan of life. That is the only way in which you can succeed.

The Lord bless you. Peace be unto the House of Israel. Never

mind what the world says, nor what the world does against you. Let us serve God, do our duty, live our religion, keep the commandments of the Lord, and work out our salvation in time and throughout eternity. This is my admonition to the Latter-day Saints, and I pray God that we may all be able to do it, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

HAIL TO THE PROPHET!

DECEMBER 23rd has been, and ever shall be, a red letter day in the history of the Latter-day Saints. On that date, one hundred and two years ago, was born the great Prophet, Seer and Revelator of the last dispensation—Joseph Smith, Jr. What rejoicing there must have been in heaven when that noble spirit, called and chosen from the foundation of the world, set out on his mission to earth to open up the glorious dispensation of the fulness of times, looked forward to by all the holy prophets! There was no chance-work connected with that mission; it was as clearly defined by God as was the mission of that other Joseph, the son of Jacob. Like the prophet of the many-colored coat, this modern Joseph was subjected to much persecution by those who knew him not and who understood not for what purpose he had been sent into the world; like him, he was termed a dreamer; like him, he was cast into prison through the lying accusations of wicked and ungodly people; and like him, he was exalted by the God of heaven and given a name and title far above that of any earthly potentate—a Prophet of the Most High, an Apostle of the Lord Jesus Christ. As the years roll by, the name of the martyred prophet becomes more revered, his life-work more highly appreciated. The work which he was instrumental in the providence of God of establishing in the earth is rolling on apace, spreading from nation to nation. The hearts of tens of thousands of the earth's inhabitants have been made to rejoice through obedience to the divine precepts revealed anew by Joseph Smith, and ten thousand times ten thousand voices shall yet be heard in the glad acclaim:

Praise to the man who communed with Jehovah!
Jesus anointed "that Prophet and Seer"—
Blessed to open the last dispensation;
Kings shall extol him and nations revere.

Hail to the prophet, ascended to heaven,
Traitors and tyrants now fight him in vain;
Mingling with Gods, he can plan for his brethren;
Death cannot conquer the hero again.

W. A. M.

THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS' MILLENNIAL STAR.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1907.

COMPLIMENTS OF THE SEASON!

This number of the Millennial Star is published one day sooner than usual so that we may wish all our readers a merry Christmas and a happy New Year. This is not a mere surface sentiment as ordinarily expressed, but an earnest wish right from the heart. We echo the words of the angelic host in proclaiming the birth of the world's Redeemer whose anniversary we celebrate: "On earth peace, good will to men."

First, we say this to Zion, dear Zion, home of prophets and saints, where stand the Temples of our God, dedicated to Him through Jesus Christ His Son; where the work of redemption, by His atonement is made practical for both the living and the dead; where His Revelator dwells sending forth His word to all nations; where a people gathered from "the four corners of the earth" have settled, specially to serve and follow their Master, Christ.

Second, to the elders of the Church and the saints who are scattered abroad bearing testimony of His gospel restored to earth in this dispensation. To the missionaries—faithful, devoted harbingers of life and light, saviors of the souls of men; to the people who have braved the scorn and hatred of the world for the truth's sake, and have put on Christ by being baptized in His name and following in His footsteps.

Third, to the rest of mankind—all children of the Eternal Father, though they know Him not. Would that they had come to the knowledge of the truth! It is joyful to know that at some period in the great eternity they will open their eyes to the light, bow their knee to Christ, recognize Him as their Savior and obey Him as their King.

Throughout the civilized world this day is celebrated in honor of Him who came into mortality as the Babe of Bethlehem, and passed from it on the cross at Calvary. His spotless life, His sublime precepts, His marvellous influence have impressed mankind down through the centuries that have passed since His tragic death. All people who have heard of Him recognize His superiority. He stands alone in history as the perfect One. His name is venerated even where His virtues are not imitated. The un-

believer in His divinity joins in admiration the worshiper at His shrine. Well may all Christendom unite in celebrating the day of His birth. The spirit of the hour brings joy and pleasure, and promotes tenderness, forgiveness, charity; the poor are remembered and their wants supplied; forgiveness is extended; families are united; congratulations are offered, and a kindly feeling permeates the air on Christmas Day.

The Latter-day Saints, though excluded by many modern professors from the "Christian" pale, rejoice on this glorious anniversary because in principle they are thoroughly and entirely Christian. They believe in Christ, not only as a grand religious teacher, a profound philosopher, the great exemplar; but as the veritable Son of the Eternal Father, sent into the world as its Savior, whose blood atoned for sin, who is the resurrection and the life, who is the world's mighty Redeemer. They not only have faith in Him, but strive to keep His commandments and walk in His ways.

It is He who, in person, has restored the everlasting gospel, established again the Church which they have entered by the door that He instituted. It is He who is the living head of that Church, directing it, inspiring it, blessing it with the gifts enjoyed of old. They have been baptized unto Him; they have received of His Spirit; they look to Him as their Mediator, and expect to meet Him as the King of kings and Lord of lords. They have suffered for His sake; like Him they have been despised and rejected of men; many of them have been driven from their homes and deprived of all their earthly possessions because of their adherence to His doctrines; they look for His approaching advent, for the coming of the great Bridegroom when a new Christmas festival will be celebrated, and they are keeping their lamps trimmed, with oil in the vessels, that they may be ready when the cry is raised, "Go ye out to meet him." They have no quarrel with those who malign and condemn them; they only desire that all people shall come to the understanding of the truth, and they hail with pleasure every expression of regard for Christ, the Anointed, even though it be but the keeping of His natal day, the celebration of Christmas.

This blessed day, with all its festivities and gifts and rejoicings, is but the shadow of that glorious event to come when Christ will appear in His glory and crown the earth with His presence, and all who are in Him shall be made one with Him and be redeemed from pain and suffering, ignominy and death. Let us all be glad and rejoice on this Christmas day, but let our merriment be temperate and governed by wisdom. We extend to all people, of every creed and every race and every tongue the sincere wish that they may enjoy a bountiful Christmas and a splendid, happy New Year.

C. W. P.

MINUTES OF THE LEEDS CONFERENCE.

THE Leeds semi-annual conference was held in the Temperance Hall, Bradford, December 15th, 1907. There were present, President Charles W. Penrose of the European mission, Sister Romania B. Penrose of the General Board of Relief Societies, Elder J. S. Mulliner, Jr., of the Liverpool office, President Willard B. Enniss and twenty-three traveling elders of the Leeds conference, and three visiting elders.

The morning session of the conference convened at 10:30. After the opening exercises, the sacrament was administered. President Enniss welcomed all to the conference. He was pleased with the work that had been accomplished, and with the condition of the conference. The statistical report for the four months ending November 30th, 1907, was read; it showed the following: Tracts distributed, 177,354; books, 2,063; gospel conversations, 6,156; total meetings held, 645; baptisms, 44; children blessed, 6; died, 6; emigrated, 12; removed, 8. The report was accepted as read. The general and local authorities of the Church were presented and unanimously sustained.

Elder Thomas E. Towler, presiding elder of the Clayton branch, gave a favorable report of his branch and commended the work that is being done by the Relief Society. Unity prevails in the branch and the saints are enjoying the blessings of the gospel.

The Huddersfield branch was reported by presiding Elder Roy D. Mellor as being in a good condition, with several investigators of the gospel in that city. He bore a strong testimony to the truthfulness of the gospel, and desired to do all he could for the spread of the latter-day work.

Elder Gilbert D. Weaver spoke encouragingly of the work in the Pudsey branch over which he presides. The Sunday School is fully organized, the Saints are united and bring investigators to the meetings. He bore a strong testimony to the divinity of "Mormonism," and encouraged the Saints to live their religion.

On September 12th, 1907, the work was commenced in the town of Ripon. Elder Alexander B. H. Manghan reported that they had found some opposition in that city, but a few had been led to investigate the truth and they felt encouraged with the outlook in that part. A hall has been secured and they expect to hold regular meetings after the first of the year.

President Penrose spoke of the great joy experienced by the saints in bringing their fellow-men to the knowledge of the truth. He said the present is a time of warning, and elders and saints should be zealous in doing all they can to spread the truth and thereby enjoy the blessings predicated upon activity in the work of the Lord. He said in all nations of the earth where the gospel is being preached the work is advancing and the purposes of the Almighty are being accomplished. Prejudice and opposition are

being overcome in many places through the Spirit of God working in the hearts of the people. He bore a powerful testimony to the restoration of the gospel through the Prophet Joseph Smith, and promised joy and consolation to the saints if they would live true to their covenants and observe the laws of God as fast as they were made known to them.

At the afternoon services Elder H. Parley Matthews reported progress in the Leeds branch, and an abundant opportunity for the spread of the truth in that city. The majority of the saints are trying to live their religion; they have a good Sunday School, and a number of people are earnestly investigating the gospel. He felt that much good would be accomplished there in the future. Bore testimony to the truthfulness of the gospel, and expressed an earnest desire to do his part in building up the kingdom of God on the earth.

Presiding Elder Joseph A. Capener of the Halifax branch reported that branch in good condition. The saints are trying to live their religion; harmony, love, and union exist among them. A new and more comfortable hall had been recently secured in which to hold meetings. He commended the work being done by the Relief Society. The branch consists approximately of ninety-five members, with a thoroughly organized Sunday School and Mutual Improvement Association. He encouraged the saints to set examples worthy of imitation by the world and bore testimony to the truthfulness of the gospel.

The Batley branch was reported by Elder Henry K. Bytheway, who said that the saints were united and were supporting the elders in their work. Four new homes had been opened to the missionaries, in which to hold cottage meetings during the past month. Sunday School is held regularly and there are a few earnest investigators in that locality.

Elder Christopher J. Kearl reported the Bradford branch as being in a prosperous condition. The saints are united and the auxiliary organizations are doing a good work. He spoke of the work established by the Prophet Joseph Smith and continued by President Brigham Young. Referred to the persecutions endured by the saints in the years that are past. Spoke of the sacrifices being made for the spread of the gospel and the favorable changes that have taken place in the world, the hearts of the people being softened towards the Lord's servants.

President Penrose said he was thankful to hear the favorable reports made by the elders, to see so many present and to partake of the spirit that had been made manifest in the meetings of the conference. The saints have every reason to rejoice. Spoke of conditions in the south of England, where much opposition had been encountered but which is now giving way to the efforts of the elders and saints in that part. He said he was thankful for the religious freedom enjoyed by the people in England. He re-

lated some of his earlier experiences in traveling without purse or scrip and reminded the saints that the Spirit of the Lord is enjoyed by measure as we work for the advancement of God's purposes in the earth. He then dwelt upon the Spirit of God and its operations upon the hearts of the children of men. It is the power of the Holy Spirit that quickens and illuminates everything in the earth; makes known even the mysteries of eternal lives The gospel of Christ embraces all truth; when a truth is made known it is the reflection of the inspiration of the Almighty. All truth and light come from God and error and darkness come from Satan, who is a personal being even as God is a personal being. Man, the greatest of all God's creations, should be a reflector of truth. When saints enjoy the Holy Ghost as a gift from God through obedience to the laws which control it, they are bound together in love and union; they see eye to eye and will increase in wisdom and power. The speaker also showed that the Holy Ghost is bestowed upon repentant believers by the imposition of hands by those holding divine authority. The personal Holy Ghost is one of the three composing the Godhead. In conclusion he bore a strong testimony to the necessity of obeying the first principles of the gospel, that we may advance step by step in the plan of salvation.

At the continuation of the services in the evening there were fully eight hundred persons in attendance, many of whom are not members of the Church. The Keighley branch was reported by Elder George E. Briggs as being in a good condition spiritually. The saints are supporting the elders in their missionary work. The organizing of a Relief Society has been the means of accomplishing a great amount of good in the branch. A Sunday School is being held with good results, also cottage meetings.

Elder Julius A. Rockwood reported the progress that is being made in the Wakefield branch. He said the saints were united and that a feeling of brotherly love exists among them. The prospects for future work were very good in the branch. He bore testimony to the truthfulness of the work. His father was closely associated with the Prophet Joseph Smith and left his dying testimony that the prophet was a pure and holy man.

Elder Joseph S. Mulliner of the Liverpool Office expressed his pleasure at meeting with the saints of the Leeds conference, and of enjoying the spirit of the meetings. He testified that God had raised up a prophet in these last days to receive the will of the Lord for the guidance of His saints, even as He had done in all of the dispensations of the gospel.

President Penrose was the last speaker and delivered a powerful discourse on the literal and universal resurrection of the body. He read from the 88th Section of the Doctrine and Covenants, showing that the redemption of the soul is the re-uniting of the spirit and the body. Spoke of the resurrection of Christ and quoted copiously from the scriptures to show that the bodies of

the righteous which are laid down in death will be taken up, quickened by the Spirit of God to enjoy endless lives in the celestial kingdom. He explained the resurrection of the just and their reign of peace upon the earth for a thousand years, and "that the rest of the dead live not again until the thousand years are ended." Then cometh the general resurrection, when every man will receive his reward according to his deeds. The state of the dead will be different in kind even as the actions of individuals differ. By several illustrations the speaker proved that although elements may be changed in form, they cannot be destroyed, and that by the application of laws known and understood by God they can be restored to their organic state. The saints were exhorted to make the best of their time, to receive the servants of the Lord, and to assist in every way in the building up of the kingdom of God, to pay their tithes and offerings, and to be Latter-day Saints in word and deed.

The audience was held with rapt attention throughout the discourse, and all rejoiced in the inspiration and gift of the Spirit of God.

On Saturday afternoon, at 3 p.m., fully one hundred and seventy-five saints and friends assembled at the Feversham Street School Baths, Bradford, and witnessed the performance of the sacred ordinance of baptism. President Penrose was present and explained the ordinance. He brought forth proof that the proper mode is immersion, and that it is for the remission of sins, as well as the necessity of the one who administers the ordinance holding the proper authority. Twelve candidates were then baptized, Elders Thomas E. Towler and Shirley Y. Clawson officiating. At the close of the services all adjourned to the upper room of the West Gate New Hall, where a confirmation meeting was held, and those who had been baptized were confirmed. The Spirit of the Lord was with us in a marked degree, and many of the saints arose and bore strong testimonies to the truthfulness of the Gospel. President Penrose expressed his pleasure with the manner in which the ordinances had been performed, and bore a powerful testimony to the divinity of the mission of the Prophet Joseph Smith.

On Monday morning President Penrose met with the elders in priesthood meeting. He said that he was much pleased with the reports of the elders and with all he had seen and heard while at the conference. He gave many valuable instructions and explained many points of doctrine to the satisfaction of the elders.

THOMAS E. TOWLER, Clerk of Conference.

ASSOCIATE with men of good judgment; for judgment is found in conversation. And we make another man's judgment ours by frequenting his company.—FULLER.

FROM THE MISSION FIELD.

Baptisms.—On Saturday evening, December 14th, 1907, a number of saints and friends attended a baptismal service at the Montpelier Baths, Cheltenham, Bristol conference. After remarks explanatory of the mode and necessity of the ordinance, three converts were baptized by President R. J. Smith and Elder D. D. Harris.

A baptismal service was held at Birkenhead Public Baths (Liverpool conference) on Friday evening last, the 20th inst., when seven converts to the true gospel of Christ were baptized by Elders Kenneth R. Woolley and Joseph S. Mulliner, Jr. Two of the converts belong to Birkenhead branch, the other five to the Liverpool branch.

District Meetings.—On Sunday, December 15th, 1907, two special district meetings were held in Saint George's Hall, Canterbury (London conference). The following elders were in attendance: President Soren Peterson, D. Frank Ottley, A. B. Case, William A. Skidmore, A. B. Worsley, George A. Hoopes. The speakers spoke under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, and were listened to with marked interest. Many friends and investigators were present, especially at the evening service. Expressions of satisfaction were heard from many of those present, and it is believed that good results will attend the meetings.

Departures.—The following missionaries sailed December 19th, 1907, per s.s. *Canada*: From Great Britain—Samuel J. Perkins, George W. Whipple, Joseph H. Butler, Mormon N. Reynolds, Alfred N. Olsen, Abel G. Rich, Walter Cox, Jr., Herbert Owens, J. L. Finlayson, Adam Glenn. From Scandinavia—Andrew P. Jacobson, David Peterson, Willard N. Petersen, Jacob Petersen, Hans O. Sorensen, Abraham O. Jacobsen. From Switzerland and Germany—Henry Kloeffer, John Wurston. From Sweden—August A. Nordvall, Gustaf E. Elm, Gustaf Peterson, Alma A. Mineer. There were thirty-five emigrating saints with the company, which was in charge of Elder Abel G. Rich, Elders Henry Kloeffer and Hans O. Sorensen being his counselors.

Relief Society Notes.—A Relief Society meeting was held in Westgate Hall, Bradford, December 14th, 1907. The meeting convened at 7:30 p.m. Sister Romania B. Penrose of the General Board of Relief Societies was in attendance. After the devotional exercises, President Mary Hollings extended a welcome to all assembled and gave an account of the work of the Relief Society

in Bradford. President Harriet A. Barraclough told of the good work done by the society in the town of Halifax. President Maria Wood of Clayton reported progress there. Sister Lilian Jeffries sang "The Children's Home." Sister Penrose then gave a very interesting and instructive address on what to read and study, the duties of teachers in visiting, the training of children, the duties of wives to their husbands; she also clearly pointed out what we must do to gain celestial glory, and urged all to love each other and to perform good works. There were seventy-five present. A spirit of love and unity prevails among the sisters, and we expect to see the work grow and prosper.—MARY E. SANDERS, Secretary.

On Sunday, the 15th inst., a Relief Society was organized at Burnley. The following officers were chosen and sustained: Mrs. Mary Brierley, first counselor; Mrs. Bertha Simpson, second counselor; Mrs. Emma Owens, secretary; Miss Agnes Simpson, treasurer; Miss Annie Baldwin and Miss Mary Heap, teachers.

Successful Socials.—On Monday evening last, the 16th, inst., the Saints of the Birmingham branch gave an entertainment in honor of Elder Samuel J. Perkins, who has labored among them for the past sixteen months. The social was held at the residence of Brother Alfred E. Evans. It was largely attended by saints and friends, who spent a most enjoyable evening together. The Second Intermediate Sunday School Class presented Elder Perkins, their teacher, with an elegant traveling rug as a token of their love and esteem.

A very successful social-concert was held at Durham House, 295 Edge Lane, Liverpool, on Tuesday evening last, the 17th inst., for the purpose of raising means with which to purchase an organ for the Church services. The hall was packed to its utmost capacity, and enough money was realized to pay for the instrument. The program proved to be a most enjoyable one, a number of talented vocalists and instrumentalists (not members of the Church) having kindly volunteered their services for the occasion. At the close of the concert President Penrose, who presided, and also contributed much to the enjoyment of the evening, tendered the thanks of the Liverpool branch to those who had participated in the program, and also to all the patrons.

A farewell social was held in Thrift Hall, Grimsby, December 17th, in honor of Elder Adam Glenn, who sailed for home on the 19th inst. A very interesting program was rendered, and a good time was enjoyed by all present. He carries with him the esteem and good wishes of all the saints and friends.

On Saturday, the 14th inst., a potato pie supper was given by Brother and Sister Gregson, with a view to raising funds to buy two hassocks and other things for the use of the elders of the

Burnley branch. The supper was held at the home of Brother Gregson, Waterside, Quaker Bridge, Brierfield, after which an enjoyable evening was spent. The sum of 12s. 4d. was realized from the party.

SANTA CLAUS.

I have stood fer almost ev'ry thing ieonoclasts have done;
I have seen life's idols fallin' inter fragments one by one,
An' I haven't made no murmur, jist perhaps have heaved a sigh,
An' have watched them do their smashin' an' have put the fragments by;
But there's a length they daren't go, a length 'at isn't right,
An' when they taekle Santa Claus, by jing they've got ter fight!

No sir! Roll yer eyes an' mutter in yer hypoeritie strain!
Hope 'at you ain't got no children—mebbe I'm a-talking plain,
But I'm feelin' on this subjec' deeper p'raps than I kin tell,
An' a childhood 'thout a Santa Claus is a burning joyless—well,
It ain't no surenough childhood, an' I wanter say 'at I
B'lieve in Santa! Always have b'lieved! an' I will until I die!

An' I'm goin' ter tell my baby when her lisping prayers are said,
That sweet story 'bout ol' Santa, 'fore I tote her up to bed!
An' I'll help write him a letter, an' I'll see her eyes grow bright,
An' I'll know I've made her happy when she kisses me good night!
An' the man that dares ter tell her that there ain't no sieh a thing
Better not let me know of it, or he'll have ter fight, by jing!

SELECTED.

DIED.

WETHERAL.—At Carlisle, December 12th, 1907, Claude Jones, the infant son of Frederiek R. and Mary L. J. Wetheral, aged ten months.

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EDITED, PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY CHARLES W. PENROSE, 295 EDGE LANE, LIVERPOOL:

FOR SALE IN ALL THE CONFERENCES OF THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS IN GREAT BRITAIN.